

e) [providing access for the escape of fertilized ovocytes through the exit area in the container into the uterine cavity without removal of the fertilized ovocytes from the uterine cavity] accessing the uterine cavity through the exit area of the container ^{without removal of the container} from the uterine cavity to enable transfer of the at least one fertilized ovocyte through the exit area into the uterine cavity.--

Amend claim 29 as follows:

--29.² (amended) Process according to claim ¹28, wherein the [exit area is open when the container is lodged in the] uterine cavity is accessed upon completion of the introduction and lodging steps.--

Amend claim 30 as follows:

--30.³ (amended) Process according to claim ¹28, further comprising temporarily closing off the exit area with a plug before the container is lodged in the uterine cavity, wherein [access for the escape of the fertilized ovocytes is effected by] the accessing step ^{comprises} ~~comprising~~ expelling the plug from the exit area.--

Amend claim 31 as follows:

--31.⁴ (amended) Process according to claim ¹28, further comprising, upon [providing access for the escape of fertilized ovocytes,] accessing the uterine cavity through the container, ejecting the contents of the container into the back of the uterine cavity.--

Amend claim 32 as follows:

C1 Cont
~~32~~⁵. (amended) Process according to claim ~~28~~¹,
[wherein] the exit area [is] being defined by a biodegradable
portion of the container, [and access for the escape of the
fertilized ovocytes is effected by] wherein the accessing step
comprises biodegradation of the biodegradable portion.--

Claim 33, line 1, change "wherein the" to --compris-
ing holding the--;

line 2, cancel "in the uterus is held in
position";

line 3, change "uterus" to --uterine
cavity--.

Claim 34, line 2, change "uterus." to --uterine
cavity.--.

Amend claim 35 as follows:

C2
~~35~~⁸. (amended) Process according to claim ~~28~~¹,
wherein the [container is lodged in the uterine cavity]
~~introduction and lodging steps are carried out~~ *container is lodged in the uterine cavity* so that the
exit area is disposed relatively adjacent the back of the
uterine cavity.--

Cancel claim 36.

Claim 37, line 1, change "36," to --64,--;

line 2, after "means" insert --for--.

Amend claim 38 as follows:

C3
~~38~~⁹. (amended) Device according to claim [36] ~~64~~⁹,
wherein said means for defining an exit area comprises
means defining a portion of the container means
~~biodegradable portion means of the container~~ which is biode-
gradable through contact with its contents and/or the intra-

uterine environment for providing access to the uterine cavity
after fertilization of the ^{at least one} ovocyte.

Claim 45, line 2, after "the" insert --biodegrad-
able--.

Claim 46, line 1, change "36," to --64,--.

Claim 47, line 1, change "36," to --64,--.

Claim 48, line 2, change "uterus" to --uterine
cavity--.

Claim 49, line 1, change "36," to --64,--;

line 3, change "uterus" to --uterine
cavity--.

Amend claim 50 as follows:

²³
~~50~~ (amended) Device for intra-uterine fertil-
ization in mammals comprising a tube means ^{sized for introduction} adapted to be
introduced through the neck of the [uterus] uterine cavity of
the mammal into the uterine cavity, piston means disposed
proximate one end of the tube means, said piston means being
mounted for sliding movement [toward] towards the other end of
the tube means, holding means for removably holding the device
in the neck of the [uterus] uterine cavity and for lodging the
tube means in the [uterus] uterine cavity, ^{and means} ~~an exit area~~
proximate the other end of the tube means, adapted to face the
back of the uterine cavity, ~~said tube means being adapted to~~
~~accommodate culture medium, at least one ovocyte and spermato-~~
~~zoa for intra-uterine fertilization therein, said piston means~~
being movable toward [said] ^{the at least one} the other end to expel fertilized
^{ovocyte} ~~ovocytes~~ from said tube means.